

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 055991

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, NATO

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON APPOINTMENTS OF CANDIDATES TO NATO
PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

REF: USNATO 2139

1. AS YOU HAVE NO DOUBT ALSO OBSERVED THE CANADIAN PAPER
QUOTED IN REFTTEL CONTAINS NOTHING NEW. IN GRAPLING WITH
THIS SAME PROBLEM WE FOUND OURSELVES TENDING TOWARD THE
SAME OUTCOME AS THE CANADIANS: AFTER CITING EXISTING
RULES, THERE IS REALLY VERY LITTLE THAT CAN BE ADDED
BECAUSE THERE IS NOTHING BASICALLY WRONG WITH THEM. IT
DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON HOW THEY ARE BEING ADMINISTERED. THUS,
WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH CANADIAN PAPER.

2. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHAT LUNS DOES WITH IT.
THE SYG MAY SIMPLY SAY THAT CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE PROCE-
DURES CONTAIN EVERYTHING THAT THE CANADIANS DESIRE, OR HE
MAY SAY THAT THEY WILL BE REVIEWED. IN THE END ITS LIKELY
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NOTHING WILL CHANGE, BECAUSE THE SYG WILL RETAIN THE
AUTHORITY TO SELECT THE CANDIDATE HE WANTS, AND FOR THE MOST
SENIOR POSITIONS THAT IS PROBABLY THE WAY IT SHOULD BE.

3. YOU SHOULD TAKE NO ACTION ON THIS CANADIAN INITIATIVE
AT THIS TIME BUT SIMPLY REPORT DEVELOPMENTS. IF IT COMES
UP IN THE COUNCIL OR AT LUNCH IT WOULD SEEM BEST TO LET

OTHERS TAKE THE LEAD.

4. HOWEVER, THERE IS A CHANGE OF PROCEDURES THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE, (WITHOUT OFFICIALLY PROPOSING IT), AND IF AN APPROPRIATE OCCASION ARISES IN INFORMAL DISCUSSION, WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO PLANT THE IDEA WITH AN ALLY OR TWO THAT A MAXIMUM TERM OF OFFICE OF FIVE YEARS FOR SYG, DSYG AND ASYGS DESERVES SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ITALIANS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN IN A POSITION TO SAY THAT PANSA WILL REMAIN IN THE POSITION OF DSYG UNTIL LUNS AGREES TO APPOINT ANOTHER ITALIAN AS HIS SUCCESSOR, IF SUCH A REGULATION HAD BEEN IN EFFECT.

CHRISTOPHER

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